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Friends,

This week, the House voted on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), the federal government's annual budget for the Department of Defense. I voted against the reckless, woke bill that is a complete disaster for servicemen and women.

In addition to upholding the un-American COVID-19 vaccine mandate, this NDAA contained blank checks for "Green New Deal" initiatives, gender reassignment surgeries, and critical race theory programs. It does nothing to remedy the [recruitment](#), [retention](#), and readiness crisis that the military faces, all while spending \$839 billion.

**READ:** [Bishop Votes Against Reckless, Woke, Defense Bill](#)

This spending spree also lacks proper oversight, as we give another \$1 billion to Ukraine with little to no strings attached. As inflation skyrockets to 9.1%, Congress is shoveling more money into foreign coffers and America Last pork-barrel projects.

House Democrats also blocked multiple amendments to defund the vaccine mandate, as well as [my amendment](#) that would have banned Critical Race Theory from the military.

**READ:** [‘Reckless’: House Approves Billions More In Spending As Inflation Rages](#)

**The Biden Border Crisis Rages On**

Despite the obscene amount of spending on “defense,” our southern border remains dangerously unsecured and is being overwhelmed by a record surge of illegal crossings -- all while ICE is literally running out of money. The agency is set to exhaust all of its funding as the Biden Administration focuses its efforts on sending millions of migrants to “Alternatives to Detention.”

**READ:** [‘There’s No Money’: ICE Is Set To Run Out Of Funding Amid Record Migrant Surge](#)

In May, there were nearly 240,000 encounters at the border, setting a Department of Homeland Security record. This is not a record that we should ever be happy about breaking, and this administration puts Americans at risk every day by failing to support our border patrol agents or enforce our immigration laws.

Business as usual in Washington is not good enough – Congress cannot continue to rubber-stamp massive spending binges with nearly zero accountability. My office will continue to fight back against inflationary policies that overlook the needs of hardworking North Carolinians.

### **Opposing Dems' Abortion-On-Demand Bills**

Today I voted against the Democrats’ two radical pro-abortion bills, the Abortion-On-Demand Until Birth Act and the Ensuring Access to Abortion Act. Democrats are fighting tooth and nail to advance a culture of death, and to strip power from the people and their elected state governments. All human life is precious, and that includes the lives of the unborn. I will always fight against Democrat-led efforts that promote the horrific practice of abortion.

Read my full statement [here](#)

### **The 2022 Congressional App Challenge**

Students in District 8 interested in coding are invited to compete in this year’s National Congressional App Challenge. Individuals or teams may submit their application for any digital platform (web app, desktop/PC app, a web browser extension, robot, Ruby on Rails, mobile, etc.) and can use any programming language

(C/C++, Objective C, C#, Java, JavaScript, Python, Ruby, PHP, Swift, “block code”, etc.).

App submissions must show some degree of functionality to be competitive!

For a full list of rules, please visit <https://www.congressionalappchallenge.us/>

For additional questions please contact Kennon Later at (202) 225-1976 or [Kennon.later@mail.house.gov](mailto:Kennon.later@mail.house.gov)

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